



THE MESSENGER

OF THE OAKLAND STAKE OF ZION

Vol. 11

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY, 1941

No. 1

VALLEJO WARD M.I.A. CHORUS



First row, left to right: Lois Hill, Helen Shurtliff, Desma Raty, Ruth Nielsen, Sarah Neerings, Director Lewis, Theodora Johnson, Miles Johnson, Marjorie Lewis, Beverley Wickett, Betty Shurtliff, Marjorie Knight.

Second row: Curtis Thulin, Renee Whitmore, Alice Coogin, Verda Telford, Katheryn Christensen, Margaret Knight, Irene Standley, Fern Mayfield, Al Smith.

Back row: Art Knight, Roy Kramer, Rex Johnson, Stanford Knight, Henry Buck, Myron Telford, Walter Hill, Harold Jensen, Parley Merrill, Wm. Smith, Bob Merrill, Daril Hill, Henry Neerings.

Members not shown in picture: Katheryn Frazer, Ruth Cheshire, Alvin Cheshire, Walter Bolander, Ward Christopherson, Wells Shurtliff, Edna Bartlett, Doris Gilbert, Wilma Gilbert, Dagner Seversen, Elda Lowry, Georgia Colman.

With a total ward membership of but three hundred twenty-two, the Vallejo Mutual Improvement Association under the leadership of Elder Clair C. Lewis, has built up a mixed chorus of forty-four voices. This chorus, almost two years old, has already made a fine reputation for itself. Besides furnishing the musical program for various ward functions, it has appeared at Stake quarterly conferences. In June, 1940, at the invitation of the Vallejo Baptist Church, it appeared in concert under the auspices of that church, and a short time ago it furnished a program for the Methodist Church of Napa. With increased industrial activity in and around Vallejo, that ward is growing rapidly, and this chorus is one of its real attractions, furnishing social as well as musical activity for members.

CHANGE IN CALIFORNIA MISSION HEAD

Effective January 1, Elder Henry H. Blood, who has just completed two terms as governor of Utah, will succeed President W. Aird Macdonald as head of the California mission. His headquarters will be the new mission home in Los Angeles.

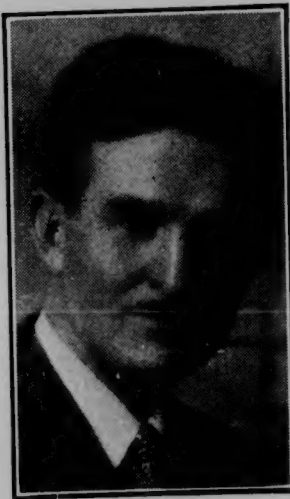
When in April, 1937, President Macdonald left Oakland for Stockton, he was not permitted to remain inactive in the church. On July 15, 1937, he was called to head the California mission. Having now given some three and one-half years of his time, he will return to his former position at Stockton, with the State Board of Equalization.

TEMPLE MARRIAGE

Miss Joyce Van Noy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Van Noy, was united in marriage to Eugene Hilton, Jr., on December 20, in the Salt Lake Temple. The bride's mother accompanied the couple to Salt Lake City. A lovely wedding reception was held at the home of the bride's parents in Oakland Saturday evening, December 28. The couple will take an apartment in Berkeley near the university, where the groom is enrolled.

WE ARE TEN

With this issue, THE MESSENGER is ten years old. It first appeared under the date line, "January, 1931," and was edited by W.



First Editor

Aird Macdonald, then president of San Francisco Stake. Elder Macdonald, who first came to San Francisco in 1910 as cartoonist, and later as reporter and photographer for the San Francisco Daily News, was a strong exponent of the written word, and THE MESSENGER was founded to use the written word as a tie to bind every Latter-day Saint family in the bay area closer to church. The purpose of the new publication was set forth in an announcement on its front page, excerpts from which we reprint as still exemplifying our reason for being:

"The publication of a monthly Stake paper is undertaken with the aim of increasing our efficiency as a Stake and as wards. Many find it impossible, for various reasons, to attend meetings, thereby missing important announcements, reports of activities and events of interest. It is deemed of sufficient importance that everyone in the Stake be fully informed on church affairs to justify this publication. It will go into every Latter-day Saint home each month.

"It is intended that this paper shall contain matters which our people cannot get elsewhere.

Continued on Page Two

COMING EVENTS

- Friday, January 10—Date open for ward functions.
- Friday, January 17—Oakland ward entertains; Napa branch entertains.
- Friday, January 24—Stake Aaronic Priesthood Jamboree.
- Friday, January 31—Berkeley ward entertains; Maxwell Park ward entertains.
- Friday, February 7—Elmhurst ward entertains; Vallejo ward entertains.

THE MESSENGER

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Published by the Oakland Stake of Zion
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793 Cragmont Avenue, Berkeley.

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2533 Cordova St., Oakland, A.N.dover 3328
Circulation: Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Stoddard
559 Appar St., Oakland, Piedmont 1873-J

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple."—Mal. 3:1.

Vol. 11 JANUARY, 1941 No. 1

WARD TEACHERS' MESSAGE FOR JANUARY, 1941 "Peace"

We have just completed the celebration of the birth of our Savior, the "Prince of Peace." We have made merry in our homes and in our public gatherings. Good will and fellowship were at high tide during the holiday season. It is hoped that all Latter-day Saints had in their hearts also a reverent regard for the sacred, peace-loving mission of the Redeemer of the world. With these divine qualities so recently claiming our attention, it is appropriate that we now determine in our hearts to let their purifying influence persuade our opinions and gauge our actions throughout the coming year.

There can be no peace in the world until there is peace in the hearts of men. Hatred and selfishness must not find lodgment in the hearts of the Latter-day Saints. If we persist in conversation which harrows up our feelings and unrighteously offends any of our fellow men, we are seriously in error and have great need to change our course.

We should make every effort to be at peace with ourselves, with our fellow men, and with our Father in Heaven. Intelligent restraint upon the ever-present urge to speak of war and unrest should be exercised by all. If we devote ourselves to thinking constructively upon life and its great opportunities, we will contribute to our own peace of mind and encourage faith and hope in the minds and hearts of mankind. There could hardly be anything more welcome in life today than a concerted effort to keep our "feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." (Ephesians, 6:15.)

The Savior left a message on this subject which we should bind upon our hearts: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John, 14:27.)

This is our Lord's invitation to dispel fear from our lives and to live in the heart-warming influence of the peace and love which He sheds forth on all the just and true.

FIRST ANNUAL PRIESTHOOD CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Under the leadership of the High Priests' Quorum, the december priesthood union meeting was devoted to a Christmas program. It is hoped to make this an annual affair.

THE MESSENGER

January, 1941

A NEW YEAR'S GREETING FROM THE STAKE PRESIDENCY

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

All who can call themselves Americans, and particularly "Latter-day Saint" Americans, should begin this new year with a prayer unto God. Not a prayer of supplication for new blessings or for mercy only, but rather an earnest expression of gratitude for blessings unmeasured, and for mercy that descends upon us like the reviving sunbeams from Heaven.

Who else in all the world live under a Constitution dictated and established by the Will of God? Our nation was chosen out of all the nations of the world to be the cradle of the "Kingdom cut out without hands" which will eventually fill the entire earth! What people in all the world has had such freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom from religious persecutions, freedom of life itself? Education has become a definite part of the life of each of us! Racial tolerance is an accepted policy. Comforts and even luxuries that are reserved for the so-called privileged classes in other countries are commonplace and available to the average American of modest circumstances.

These are but a few of the choice gifts and blessings with which we start the new year. God grant that they may always be ours. And they will be ours as surely as the people of this great nation remember Him and live the lives that grateful sons and daughters should live.

And so let us begin the year with these words and keep them near to our hearts throughout the year: Father we thank thee for all thy blessings and tender mercies.

Sincerely your brethren,

EUGENE HILTON
W. GLENN HARMON
CLYDE J. SUMMERHAYS.

STAKE BENEFIT A SUCCESS

Despite stormy weather the Piedmont Theatre three-night benefit performance of "Brigham Young" was a huge success. Complete returns from ticket sales have not yet been tabulated, but it appears that well over 1200 tickets were sold. Thanks to the generosity of Elder Thys Winkle, manager of the Piedmont, the entire proceeds of these ticket sales will go into the Stake budget funds.

AARONIC PRIESTHOOD JAMBOREE

Elmhurst ward will be the locale of the Semi-Annual Aaronic Priesthood Jamboree to be held at 7:30 p. m., January 24. The purpose of the jamboree is to make the award of the loving cup to the ward having the highest average of service points per boy in the Stake. An interesting program has been arranged after which there will be refreshments and contests.

ASSIGNMENT FOR JANUARY

Alameda: Leo H. Crandall, Grant Ellis.
Berkeley: R. Kendall Thomas, O. Leslie Stone.
Claremont: Robert Larsen, Oscar Fontana.
Dimond: Don C. Wood, Hugh P. Anderson.
Elmhurst: Claude M. Dewsnup, Harry Fletcher.
Hayward: William J. Nielsen, I. B. Ball.
Maxwell Park: Don J. Alphin, Nathan G. Tolman.
Martinez: Delbert F. Wright, John G. Shields.
Napa: Victor C. Lindblad, J. Evans Hilton.
Oakland: Eugene Hilton.
Pittsburg: Clyde J. Summerhays.
Richmond: W. Glenn Harmon.
Vallejo: Wayne E. Mayhew, George Southgate.

WE ARE TEN

Continued from Page One

Space will be given for news of happenings of general Stake interest, for the Priesthood, the auxiliaries and for the several wards. Here should be published all announcements, instructions and news of these organizations.

"THE MESSENGER" will be distributed the first Sunday of each month.

"There is one copy for every family. Bishops should see that it is delivered promptly into every home in their wards. . . . THE MESSENGER comes to you free. This has been made possible by our advertisers."

About the only change that the past decade calls for in the above announcement is that THE MESSENGER is now distributed through the mails. It still strives to publish that which is not elsewhere available but which is of such importance that members of Oakland Stake should be informed.

Although there has been no change in the original announced purpose of THE MESSENGER, time has wrought great change otherwise. When President Macdonald first came to San Francisco in 1910, there was a small branch of the church in Oakland, presided over by Elder Norman B. Phillips. Ten years later Saw Elder Macdonald made president of that branch, with Elders Willard Ellis and William Everett as counselors. San Francisco Stake was organized in July, 1927, with Elder Macdonald as president and Elders J. Edward Johnson and Clyde W. Lindsay as counselors. This continued until November, 1930, when Eugene Hilton succeeded Elder Lindsay in the presidency. By 1934, the Stake had grown to 4874 members, and in December of that year it was divided to create Oakland Stake, whose initial membership was 3070.

In 1937 President Macdonald, who had left newspaper work for insurance, accepted a responsible position with the State Board of Equalization with headquarters in Stockton. This necessitated a reorganization of the Stake presidency and Eugene Hilton was chosen to succeed him.

Oakland Stake starts the year 1941 with a membership of 5035. This is an increase of more than 64 per cent in the six years of its existence. The church now owns six chapels and two sites upon which chapels are to be built. In every way there has been a steady and healthy growth, a large part of which is to be attributed to the Stake missionary system, one of the first established in the entire church.

STAKE RELIEF SOCIETY

President Anna Ellsworth says she is glad to report that most of the wards have shown substantial gains in their membership this fall. Our goal has been set for 60 per cent enrollment, and 50 per cent attendance. Vallejo has especially shown marked gains, increasing their membership from 18 to 47.

Most of the wards celebrated the holiday season with parties for the members, and the house-bound and those less fortunate were remembered with cards and Christmas baskets.

The picture, "The Howards of Virginia," was filmed from the book which the Relief Societies of the Stake will take up this month, "The Tree of Liberty," by Elizabeth Page. The management of the Piedmont Theatre collaborated with the Relief Society in a theatre party showing of the picture December 25. The Stake Relief Society received 50 per cent on all tickets which they sold.

The members of the Stake Relief Society Board extend best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year to all members of the Stake.

January, 1941

OUR MISSIONARIES IN THE FIELD

From New England and New York, from North Carolina in the south, from Ontario in the north, from Nebraska in the middle west, come messages from our missionaries. There are eleven of them in the field, and each one of the eleven writes of a great contentment and satisfaction there is in the work and the wonderful experiences.

Elder Jack Dewsnup of Richmond writes from Wackesboro, North Carolina, his thankfulness for the opportunity of serving the Lord; he was told before leaving that his success depended upon his faith, work and prayer. He has made this his slogan. He is in good health, has seen many faith-promoting instances which has strengthened his testimony, and is very happy in his work.

Alyce Lauper of Dimond, writes from Rochester, N. Y., that she, too, is enjoying her work and is having a wonderful experience. George F. Badouin of Claremont, writes in the same vein; and Warren Carr, also of Claremont, writes from Ontario that he loves best to labor in the smaller communities where it seems possible to draw closer to the people. In the small town of Bancroft, he has been working as M.I.A. chorister, Sunday school teacher, priesthood class teacher, in addition to his duties as an elder.

A very interesting letter comes from Gwendolyn Millet of Hayward, who is at present in Portland, Maine. She is drawing to the end of her allotted term. She writes that the New England Mission has the reputation of being a difficult place in which to labor; there are eighty-six missionaries there at present. In bearing his testimony one of them stated it seemed like trying to dislodge the side of a mountain to interest New Englanders, whereupon President Levi Edgar Young responded that "if you try long enough and hard enough there will be a landslide some day." Many people have done genealogical work throughout this area, and every city of any size has its genealogical library. Sister Millet says that in discussions it develops that many people have swerved and modified their beliefs from that of the denomination they espouse, but they maintain their memberships because it was the religion of their fathers.

Of the eleven missionaries out from Oakland Stake, five come from Dimond ward, three from Claremont, and one each from Oakland, Hayward and Richmond. It is somewhat surprising that with each missionary expressing such strong like for the work, there are not more in the field. Oakland Stake's self-set quota is twenty-five, and strong effort will be made in 1941 to reach it.

BOOK OF "PIONEER STORIES" NOW PUBLISHED

Everywhere throughout the Church, leaders of youth, youth themselves, and fathers and mothers have been asking for a book containing true faith-promoting stories—stories that have their setting in the true pioneer life of the early days. The book will be valuable as a supplement to religious teaching. It has been needed for the inspiration and help of old and young.

Such a book is now available. The volume has been arranged and compiled by Elder Preston Nibley, under the direction of the Presiding Bishopric. What an ideal gift at only \$1.00 per copy, plus two cents state sales tax, cloth-bound and postage paid. Address all orders to The Deseret Book Company, 44 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah.

THE MESSENGER

MISSIONARY FROM BERKELEY



Zola Hardesty

A farewell testimonial for Miss Zola Hardesty was held in Berkeley chapel Friday evening, January 3. Miss Hardesty has been called to fill a mission to the Central States.

In the delightful program which began the evening, music was furnished by the Mormon Male Chorus, by Mrs. Charlotte B. Cummings and by the Misses Marjorie Cummings and Anita Macneron. Elder Ralph Hardesty, father of the departing missionary, addressed the audience, as did Elder George Southgate and Bishop Jesse R. Farr. Miss Hardesty herself responded. Following the program there was a dance in the recreation hall.

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OBITUARIES

The closing weeks of 1940 witnessed the passing of several familiar faces. Elder Peter Borup, 71, for many years a member of the Alameda ward bishopric, passed away while attending the Melchizedek Priesthood annual Christmas program, Sunday afternoon, December 22. Elder Borup, who had suffered from a heart attack while attending the October general conference and who had spent considerable time in the hospital, and recovered sufficiently to return to Alameda and to be around. He had requested the opportunity to thank his quorum members in a public meeting for their assistance during his trouble. His last words were an expression of his appreciation and a strong testimony of the gospel.

Jared Larsen, 41, was fatally injured October 28, in a fall from a scaffold while doing construction work. He was a member of Oakland ward, where he had been active in M.I.A., Sunday School, genealogical and priesthood work. He is survived by his wife, Myrtle Larsen, five children, his mother, Mrs. Edla Larsen, three brothers and one sister.

Louis F. Boyle, formerly a member of the Stake Sunday School board, passed away in Chicago December 15. Elder Boyle was a graduate of Cornell and held a master's degree from the University of California; for five years he presided over Church schools in Kelsey, Texas. The funeral was held in Dimond chapel, December 21. Mrs. Boyle was accompanied from Chicago by her sister, Mrs. Sims Ray and family, and by her brother, Leon White, all of Arizona. A daughter, Mrs. Claude Lundquist, resides in Oakland.

Funeral for Mrs. Ella Chase was held at the Cooper chapel December 25. Mrs. Chase had been ill for the past year. She had lived in California since 1922 and was active in Relief Society work. She is survived by two daughters, Dorothy, and Mrs. Ruth North of Los Angeles.

Mrs. Clyde J. Summerhays and Mrs. Reed Gardner are mourning over the recent death of their mother, Mrs. Electa Dixon, in Provo, Utah. Mrs. Dixon had many friends in this region, having lived here. She had been here on a visit in November and then appeared to be in good health.

THREE CONFERENCES

By GWENDOLYN MILLET

(EDITOR'S NOTE—The following article is written by a missionary from Hayward. Sister Millet is about to be released from her mission. The good things she has experienced, some of which are here related, should inspire others with a desire to serve in the mission field.)

This last year I have been privileged to attend three conferences at places which have been of the utmost importance in the history of our Church.

The first of these in the sequence of historical significance is Plymouth, Massachusetts. Our missionary conference was held there in July, 1940. The settlers of 1620 carried with them elements of truth which were the source of their highest power. It was the force of truth that imparted to them organic unity and vitality, which gave their government its fundamental idealism and stability. The very foundation of the Constitution and the purposes of the Christian sects of Europe finding in America an asylum provided for freedom of religion is reflected in the Mayflower Compact. It reads in part: "In the name of God, amen, we whose names are underwritten, having undertaken, for the glorie of God, and advancemente of the Christian faith * * * covenant and combine ourselves together into a civill and body politick for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of ends aforesaid."

The strong determination of the early colonists greatly impressed the small missionary gathering there at the scene of their difficulties. The sepulcher standing on the hill overlooking the bay, containing the remains of some twenty-seven of their number, is a witness of their heartbreaks, as the crude instruments in the museum are a witness of their hardships.

President Levi Edgar Young read the Mayflower Compact and gave every missionary a copy. He spoke about the prophecy of Nephi, written some six hundred years before Christ. We missionaries spoke and the places of historic interest were explained by competent guides. We saw the statue of Massasoit, Chief of the Wampanoags, a friend of the colonists. It is done in bronze by Cyrus Dallin, a native of Springville, Utah, and one of the most celebrated sculptors in America. (A copy of this same statue is in the Utah State Capitol.) Occupying a commanding position on the hill just above the famous Pilgrim landing rock, the statue is mounted upon a native boulder, which bears this inscription:

MASSAOIT
GREAT SACHEM OF THE WAMPANOAGS
PROTECTOR AND PRESERVER
OF THE PILGRIMS
1620

After viewing these scenes and again hearing their story we departed from Plymouth that day with the feeling that these early pioneers were, indeed, agents of a divine destiny.

I was very fortunate, a year ago last July, 1939, having arrived in the mission field just in time to attend the missionary conference at the Joseph Smith farm in Sharon, Windsor County, Vermont. This conference was presided over by former President Carl F. Eyring and the principal guest was Brother Melvin J. Ballard. How richly we benefited from this great man's presence and the few hours he was able to spend in explaining some point of the Gospel in the daily meetings that were held on the veranda of the Joseph Smith cottage!

The cottage is beautifully situated on a grassy knoll surrounded by green meadows with the blue, rolling hills of Vermont in the distance. There is the perfectly polished granite shaft, a foot high for every year of the man's life whose birthplace it was.

The last conference, at Palmyra, New York, was a joyful occasion. There I was surprised and glad to see Brother and Sister Summerhays.

The journey to Palmyra was a pilgrimage, to visit some of the scenes of the Prophet's life, to walk in the sacred grove, and to see the Hill Cumorah. It was a dream made into reality, traveling through the pages of history and almost meeting its characters while visiting their former homes and scenes of labor. The old store still stands wherein was printed the first edition of the Book of Mormon. The Martin Harris home is in an excellent state of preservation and the New York State Department of Education has erected a sign which reads:

MARTIN HARRIS FARM
Mortgaged for \$3,000 in 1829
to provide funds for first
publication of Book of Mormon.

The daily conference sessions in the sacred grove contained much of inspirational value. Many of the eastern states missionaries spoke and President Evans gave his farewell address. Wandering around on the Hill Cumorah and reviewing the events that took place there perhaps meant more to me than any of the other scenes. On top of the hill is the statue of the angel Moroni whose gaze is directed toward the sacred grove. Engraved on bronze plaques at the base of the statue are the words that so inspired a boy to inquire of the Lord, "If any of you lack wisdom let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally; and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him."

It seems like a coincidence that at these three places of importance to us there are three statues. The first to an Indian who was a descendant of the Lamanites; the second to a man who was an instrument in bringing forth the Lamanite history; and the third a statue to the heavenly being who played such a prominent part both in sealing away the record, and later in bringing it forth.

FROM THE MESSENGER TEN YEARS AGO

The first issue of THE MESSENGER carried news of the release of Elder Clyde W. Lindsay from the Stake presidency, and the sustaining of Elder Eugene Hilton as second counselor in his place.

President Grant and Elder Joseph H. Anderson visited San Francisco on business. President Lindsay and family were involved in an automobile accident.

Among new arrivals making their home here were Dr. Sidney S. Parkinson of New York, Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Young, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Haight.

ELMHURST WARD

Services Held at Chapel, 96th Avenue and Derby Street, Oakland

At the baptismal services held for the month of December there were two adults and one child baptised. The adults were Frederick Carl Wachter and Gordon Thomas Holmes, the child was Gilbert Lorraine Torgeson.

Special Christmas services were held December 22. The chapel decorations were unusually beautiful and effective, and special music for the occasion was furnished by the Elmhurst Choir. Elder John Solberg was the speaker for the evening.

All the officers and teachers of the Primary Association, together with their partners celebrated the holiday season with a party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Movell Day on Tuesday evening, December 18.

Darrell Stauffer, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Stauffer, has joined the Navy.

Mrs. Clara Caldwell entertained recently at a buffet supper in honor of the local missionaries and her niece, Venice Christensen, who is visiting here from Idaho. The evening was spent in games and music.

The Sunday School and Primary entertained the children of the ward at a Christmas party Monday, December 23. The main feature of the program was a pageant portraying the birth of the Savior. Then Santa appeared and treated the youngsters to all sorts of Christmas goodies.

The M.I.A. contributed their share to the holiday festivities with an excellent program at their regular meeting December 18. Musical numbers were furnished by Doris Jeffries and Stanley Mickelson and a Christmas story by Mrs. Verna Jackson. The Bee Hive girls celebrated with a party on the same evening, and we are told that the officers and teachers of the organization recently had a lot of fun with a "scavenger hunt."

Mrs. Inez McFarlane went as far as Ogden to meet her husband, our former bishop, Horace J. McFarlane, who is at home for the holidays, after spending several months in the East.

We are proud to report that Elmhurst ward is about to have a missionary. Robert Brummet has received a call to go to the East Central States Mission. He is to report in Salt Lake City some time in April.

Mrs. N. J. Mattler, who has been ill for some time, has moved to Hayward, where she is staying at the home of Bishop Stewart.

The Relief Society held their annual Christmas and Heart Friend party at the chapel on the afternoon of December 27. There was an excellent program, the ladies exchanged gifts, and delicious refreshments were served.

Mrs. Hood, mother of Mrs. Katherine Marsh, has gone to Los Angeles for a few weeks, to spend the holidays with her son.

James B. Darton of Hurricane, Utah, is here in Elmhurst visiting at the home of his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Darton.

An error was made in the last issue of THE MESSENGER which we desire to correct. It was reported that Mr. and Mrs. John Stirrett of Soda Springs, Idaho, were now living here. The name should have been Mr. and Mrs. Simeon R. Sterrett. Elder Sterrett was for many years bishop of Soda Springs.

RICHMOND WARD

Services Held in Chapel, Corner 28th Street and Nevin Avenue, Richmond

Friday, December 6, was a very interesting evening for the elders and their wives and lady friends. The elders took complete charge of the evening—even to preparing dinner, decorating the tables and serving the dinner. As each lady arrived she was presented a red rose corsage. An interesting program, colored picture slides and dancing were enjoyed by a good crowd.

Mrs. Elizabeth Worsencroft of Salt Lake City has been visiting with her daughter and son-in-

law, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Love and family.

At our "Fireside Chat" on December 8, Claude M. Dewsnap of the High Council talked to us on "Marriage." A good crowd attended.

The Gleaner Girls spent one of their Tuesday evenings making candy to send to our missionaries for Christmas.

The Relief Society Bazaar, held in the Richmond business district on Friday, December 6, was very successful.

Mr. Orville Stanger's mother, of Burley, Idaho, has been visiting with him and his family.

Ruth Parker was honored at a stork shower, where many lovely gifts were received.

Our annual Christmas party was held Tuesday evening, December 17. Mrs. Wendell Martin directed the Christmas play, "A Sign Unto You," with Leon Edlefsen, Shirley Dewsnap, Venus Edlefsen, Grace Hopkins, Leonard Aikens and Herbert Layton as characters. Santa Claus was there to give all the kiddies candy, oranges and apples, and to listen to all their requests for Christmas. Lillian Morley took charge of the games for the kiddies while the older folks danced.

Mrs. Owen Hillyard returned to Smithfield, Utah, after a month's visit with relatives and friends.

MARTINEZ WARD

Services Held at Chapel end of Arch Street

Mrs. Florence Moulding and daughter, Betty, of Ogden, Utah, were recent visitors at the Wadsworth home.

The M-Men were host at a dancing party, November 29.

Mrs. W. C. Larsen of Mammoth, Utah, visited recently at the home of her sister, Mrs. Kenneth Skidmore.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Brown have returned from a trip to Utah.

A very interesting program was presented by M.I.A. the first Sunday evening in December. La Farr and Thora Astle presented the musical program.

Miss Donna Tingey of Brigham City was a visitor at the home of her sister, Mrs. Gwen Limb.

The M.I.A. presented a one-act play, "Make Room for Rodney," December 10, which was well received by a large audience. The Dorian Trio, well-known Martinez singers, sang a group of three numbers to complete the program.

Mr. Harry Skewes and his seeing-eye dog were present at our M.I.A. meeting December 3. Mr. Skewes spoke to us during our assembly program and told about the training of these dogs and how they bring "new sight" to their masters.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hamilton, Mrs. Mabel Christensen and son, Kent, of Salt Lake City, and Mrs. Margretta Healey of Magna, Utah, have returned to their homes after a two weeks' visit at the W. B. Knowles home. Mr. Hamilton is director of the educational facilities of the CCC camps of Utah, being stationed at Fort Douglas, Utah.

Three members of our ward, Mrs. Evelyn Bradbury, Mr. Gale Roskelley and Mr. Glenn Robison, have recently undergone major op-

erations. At the present time all are reported as doing fine. We hope to see them out again soon.

The annual Christmas program and party was held Saturday evening, December 21, Santa paid a visit to the children and remembered each with a bag of candy.

"A Sign Unto You," a Christmas play in one act, was presented by the M.I.A. at the Christmas program, December 21.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Hillam of Salt Lake City, and Miss Verna Hillam of Hollywood, are spending the Christmas holidays with their daughter and sister, Mrs. A. Easton.

Miss Marie Easton of Kemmerer, Wyoming, is spending the holidays at the home of her mother, Mrs. Maria Easton.

President and Mrs. Eugene Hilton were speakers at Sacrament meeting, December 15.

DIMOND WARD

Services Held in Chapel at 3618 Dimond Avenue, Oakland

The regular meeting of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers on December 5, at the home of Nita Van Noy, was turned into a surprise stork shower for Mavis Humphreys, who has given the lessons since the camp's organization. She received many lovely gifts.

Three of our boys who have returned from the B. Y. U. at Provo, to spend the holidays with their families are Ted Hilton, Bob Kest and Louis Boyle.

Albert and Martha Fitzpatrick of Hurricane, Utah, spent the holidays in Oakland with their son, Jack and family. They were made welcome by their many friends in Dimond.

Thursday evening, December 26, Mr. and Mrs. Weindorf entertained at a buffet supper for the 25 missionaries laboring in this locality.

The children of the ward were made happy when the Sunday School and Primary officers joined to give them a Christmas party, Saturday morning, December 21.

Charles Cherrington is at home after an absence of many months, he and his wife entertained between forty and fifty friends at a delightful New Year's Eve party at their home.

A special service was held in the Dimond chapel on Christmas morning. Special music was given by the choir, a reading by Ruth Hilton, and the speaker was Lund Johnson.

The Mutual officers sponsored a Christmas party for ward members, Friday, December 20. The hall was gay with holiday decorations, and Seth Lloyd's orchestra furnished the music.

On December 26, the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers gave a party in the recreation hall for daughters and their friends.

We were sorry to hear of the illness of Jean Lauper, the wife of our former bishop, she will be confined to her bed for many months.

Jay and Elsie Brown are recovering from an accident they had while on a trip to Utah. Their car turned over and was completely demolished. They were fortunate to escape with minor cuts and bruises, the baby was not hurt.

NAPA BRANCH

Services Held at Chamber of Commerce Bldg., Brown and Clay Streets

Their were eighteen ladies present at the Relief Society Christmas party, which was held December 12, at the home of Mrs. Stella Tucker, 2510 Pine Street, Napa. Several amusing games were played. Mrs. Anna Johnson was the prize winner in a guessing game. Gifts in a large box under the Christmas tree, were drawn by number, each gift contained an original verse which had to be read by the recipient. Refreshments in keeping with the holiday season were served by the presidency, Mrs. Myrtle

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President and Mrs. W. Glenn Harmon were visitors in Napa, Sunday night, December 15. President Harmon gave an inspiring talk, followed by the showing of some beautiful moving pictures of the Salt Lake Temple grounds taken at conference time.

Mr. Virgil Swenson has been called to a new position at Terminal Island. Mr. Swenson has acted as Sunday School superintendent since its organization in Napa. Mrs. Swenson has been an active worker in Relief Society.

The branch presidency have chosen to succeed Mr. Swenson as Sunday School superintendent, Mr. Mikel Ferretta. Mr. Ferretta has had experience in Sunday School work at Santa Rosa. He will retain as his counselors Mr. Howard Hedden and Mr. Clair L. Tollestrup with Mrs. Nancy Soper as secretary.

The M.I.A. and Sunday School held a Christmas party, December 17. An excellent program preceded the arrival of Santa with his bag of gifts for the children. Santa was in a festive mood, despite his advanced years and "added" pounds and brought with him a goodly supply of candies, nuts and fruits. Those taking part in the program were Walter Prescott, Sr., Nancy Soper, Billie Banchemo, Branden Kent, Jean Brasher, Dale Hadden and Hiram Pitcher, all of Napa, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Neering of Vallejo. Mrs. Hazel Ferretta and Mr. James Barry were in charge of the program.

President and Mrs. John L. Murdock are expecting as a holiday guest, Mr. Murdock's mother from Utah.

Mrs. Lois Thompson and children, Beverly Joyce and Paul David of San Bernardino, California, will be Christmas visitors at the home of Mrs. Thompson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Pitcher.

MAXWELL PARK WARD

Services Held in Masonic Hall, Corner Foothill Boulevard and Mason Street

Our ward bazaar was held December 3, and was a great success.

The ward Christmas party was held December 17. A fine program was given by the children and the choir.

Two of our basketball players, Lloyd Kidman and Fred Walker, have gone to Utah.

Mrs. Gertrude Wood has gone to Dunsmuir, California, to spend the holidays with her daughter and family.

BERKELEY WARD

All Services Held at Chapel, Corner Vine and Walnut Streets, Berkeley

The Christmas season is the motif for many lovely programs and special parties in all the organizations.

The Twilight Musical under the direction of Mrs. Orthella Hughes on December 8, was delightful. The program numbers were in groups. Miss Elodia Ashworth was accompanied by Freedone Neilsen, Harold Wiseman was accompanied by Mrs. Webb, both from Hayward. Freedone Neilsen played three piano numbers. The Twilight Musicals are to be held the second Sunday in each month, from 3:30 to 4:30 and all are invited to attend.

At the Annual Scouters dinner, held at the International House, Ronald Stone (Bud to us), was presented with a Life Saving Award. We were pretty proud to have that honor bestowed upon a Berkeley Scout and many Scout Masters were envious of Dr. Knight. Congratulations, Bud.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS:

To Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Faulk, of Martinez, a son, December 5.
To Mr. and Mrs. Leander Mufich, Napa, a daughter, October 23.
To Mr. and Mrs. Dale Lewis Crist, a daughter, December 11.

BLESSINGS:

Charles Ronald Druck, Elmhurst.
Linda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Skidmore, Martinez, December 1.
Linda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon E. Ockey, Berkeley, December 1.
Reginald Ulysses, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Grant, Berkeley, December 1.
Linda Manon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Manton Moody, Elmhurst.

ORDINATIONS:

James A. Barry, Napa, Priest.
Howard Dale Hedden, Napa, Deacon.

MARRIAGES:

Lafayette P. Monson of Berkeley to Helen Elizabeth Marrs, December 6, by President Eugene Hilton.

BAPTISMS:

Fredrick Carl Wachter, Elmhurst.
Gordon Thomas Holmes, Elmhurst.
Gilbert Lorraine Torgeson, Elmhurst.

Mr. David Cummings returned recently after several months spent in the Hawaiian Islands, and has been very generous in giving interesting reports of his trip.

Mr. Von T. Ellsworth returned in November from a four months' trip, which took him into most all of the eastern states. In most every city he met former Berkeleyans, who sent messages to friends here.

At Relief Society on December 12, interesting and unusual table decorations suitable for the Christmas season were made and demonstrated by several of the ladies. Helen Beukers was in charge.

On Tuesday, the 17th, the Primary had their Christmas party, they are working hard on the program to be given at the Annual Children's party, December 23.

An outstanding Christmas program was presented at the regular M.I.A. Tuesday, December 17. Lovely vocal numbers from "The Messiah" were sung by the Misses Olive Neilsen and Elodia Ashworth, and Karleton Driggs played the "Hallelujah Chorus" on the organ. Miss Ashworth led the group in singing Christmas carols.

An announcement that has caused much interest is that Miss Zola Hardisty, one of our popular young ladies, has accepted a call for a mission. A farewell party has been planned for the evening of January 3. It promises to be a very fine party and an event that should call out every member of the ward.

The regular Sunday School Christmas program, held on the 22nd, was as usual, very lovely. The Memory Gem was given by Emmy Lou Cummings, poems by Rosemary Dunham and Gennine Coombs, violin numbers by Mr. Thomasly, accompanied by Karleton Driggs, the "Bible Story of Christ," Frank Parsons, solo, Richard Owens, two numbers by the Dimond Male Quartette, piano and organ duet by Marjorie Cummings and Anita Magnuson, solo, Geo. Gibson Davis, who also led the congregation in singing Christmas carols.

The choir is preparing an evening of music for December 29, which promises to be given in the splendid manner the choir always performs. We are happy to have the choir again after a prolonged vacation.

The Gamma Rho Chi girls are asking for all to save their papers and magazines for their project. They recently held a profitable food sale. Let's help them with our papers.

Dr. L. P. Monson was united in marriage to Helen Elizabeth Marrs on December 6, President Hilton officiating. The couple thereupon departed for a short honeymoon to Hawaii.

Stake Professional Directory

It is desired that every professional or business man, and those engaged in positions where their services can be used by Church members, be listed in this directory. Please communicate with H. A. Van Noy, Business Manager, 2533 Cordova Street, Oakland, California. Phone ANdover 3328.

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